



TIME OF GRACE

# Grace<sub>notes</sub>

guides for personal Bible study

## *I Have a Friend: Who Tells Me He's Gay*

**1 Corinthians 6:1-11:** <sup>1</sup>“If any of you has a dispute with another, do you dare to take it before the ungodly for judgment instead of before the Lord’s people? <sup>2</sup>Or do you not know that the Lord’s people will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life! <sup>4</sup>Therefore, if you have disputes about such matters, do you ask for a ruling from those whose way of life is scorned in the church? <sup>5</sup>I say this to shame you. Is it possible that there is nobody among you wise enough to judge a dispute between believers? <sup>6</sup>But instead, one brother takes another to court—and this in front of unbelievers! <sup>7</sup>The very fact that you have lawsuits among you means you have been completely defeated already. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated? <sup>8</sup>Instead, you yourselves cheat and do wrong, and you do this to your brothers and sisters. <sup>9</sup>Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men <sup>10</sup>nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup>And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

### *Points to Ponder*

1. Whose opinion counts when it comes to the issue of homosexuality and marriage or any sin for that matter?
  
2. In our world today, Christianity is becoming a counterculture. What does that mean?

3. What is our job then—to offer our opinions and to shame people or to connect them to what God says and keep them from spiritual suicide?
  
4. **Read 1 Corinthians 6:9,10.** Are these sins worse than any other sin? What is it though that these sins can lead to without repentance?
  
5. **Read 1 Corinthians 6:11.** This passage is speaking about all of us! We are all broken and need a Savior. Thank God that we have Jesus! This is a message we can't help but share with others!

The discussion around gay marriage is important, and it's not a matter of individuals putting their biases and prejudices on other people. The real issue is for us to dial into our God. This is a spiritual issue, and you don't truly love people who are committing spiritual suicide by letting them continue in what they are doing. Love demands that we represent what our Creator and Savior-God has revealed to us about his intent for the human race. Let's love people enough to tell the truth.

### *What else does God say?*

**Colossians 2:13:** When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins.

**James 5:19:** My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.